

## Message Text

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53

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 INT-08 STR-08 GSA-02

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /115 W

----- 086114

R 101555Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3897

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY MADRID

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 6838

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, TS

SUBJECT: BENEFITS FROM INCREASED PRICE OF MINERALS

REF: TUNIS 6628

1. ESTIMATE IN REFTEL THAT TUNISIA WOULD EARN AN ADDITIONAL \$11 MILLION IN 1974 BECAUSE OF INCREASED PRICE OF PHOSPHATE GREATLY UNDERESTIMATES ACTUAL BENEFITS. EARLIER FIGURE REFLECTED EXPORTS OF TRIPLE SUPERPHOSPHATE RATHER THAN PHOSPHATE ROCK. PHOSPHATE ROCK PRODUCTION IN 1972 WAS 3.4 MILLION TONS, OF WHICH 2.4 MILLION TONS WERE EXPORTED. THUS, NEW PHOSPHATE PRICE OF \$39 A TON SHOULD RESULT IN EXPORT REVENUE OF \$93 MILLION IF PHOSPHATE EXPORTS ARE ALSO 2.4 MILLION TONS IN 1974. ASSUMING THAT INCREASED EXPORT PRICE OF PHOSPHATIC FERTILIZER WILL FULLY REFLECT HIGHER PRICE OF PHOSPHATE ROKC, ONE MILLION TONS OF TUNISIAN PHOSPHATES PROCESSED INTO FERTILIZER SHOULD RESULT IN EXPORT REVENUES OF ROUGHLY \$39 MILLION. IN SUMMARY, TUNISIA WILL RECEIVED ABOUT \$132 MILLION FOR PHOSPHATES IN 1974 AS COMPARED TO \$44 MILLION IT WOULD HAVE EARNED BEFORE PRICE INCREASE.

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EXPORTS OF LEAD AND ZINC ORES MAY EARN \$44 MILLION

COMPARED TO THE \$13 MILLION THEY WOULD HAVE EARNED BEFORE  
THE PRICE BOOST.

2. COMMENT: SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF TUNISIA'S EXPORT  
REVENUE BECAUSE OF HIGHER WORLD PHOSPHATE AND LEAD ORE  
PRICES AND EVEN MORE SPECTACULAR (BUT POSSIBLY TEMPORARY)  
SELLING PRICE FOR CRUDE OIL (TUNIS 6639) SHOULD HAVE A  
MAJOR FAVORABLE IMPACT ON IST BALANCE OF TRADE IN THE  
FUTURE.

SEELYE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ZINC, TRADE BALANCE, LEAD, PHOSPHATES, EXPORT PRICES, FERTILIZERS, GOVERNMENT REVENUES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TUNIS06838  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TUNIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731233/aaaaayff.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** TUNIS 6628  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BENEFITS FROM INCREASED PRICE OF MINERALS  
**TAGS:** EMIN, ETRD, EFIN, TS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005